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Thursday, June 1, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork

YOUR GUIDE TO JUNE'S BEST EVENTS

This month, plan on ice cream, pool parties and music 22-23.

McDonald's now McDelivers to your desk. 21

Joe Pantorno's first 2017 NBA mock draft. 30

SET SAIL FOR SOUTH BROOKLYN

A new NYC Ferry route will provide a fast option as more commuters look for alternatives to the subway. 4

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GRIFFIN FIRED FROM CNN NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW

1 CNN said it has terminated comedian Kathy Griffin's agreement to appear on the network's annual New Year's Eve broadcast after she drew strong criticism for posing in photographs with a fake severed head resembling President Donald Trump's. CNN's public relations department announced the decision in a Twitter post. Trump said earlier that Griffin "should be ashamed of herself" for the

photos showing her with a replica of a severed, bloodied head resembling his. "My children, especially my 11-year-old son, Barron, are having a hard time with this. Sick!" the president said in a Twitter message. The Secret Service has opened an inquiry into the posting of Griffin posing with the severed-head replica. REUTERS

MYLAN MAY HAVE OVER-CHARGED US FOR EPIPENS

2 The U.S. government may have overpaid drugmaker Mylan by as much as $1.27 billion between 2006 and 2016 for its EpiPen emergency allergy treatment, the Department of Health and Human Services said. The amount is nearly three times a proposed settlement that the company announced in October. The analysis on the EpiPen payments, which was conducted by the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General, was released by Republican Senator Chuck Grassley. Grassley is the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which launched a probe of EpiPen pricing last year. The company said in October it agreed to settle with the U.S. government for $465 million after it was accused of improperly classifying EpiPen with the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program as a generic treatment. REUTERS

COMEY TO CONFIRM TRUMP PRESSURED HIM

3 Former FBI Director James Comey plans to confirm reports that President Donald Trump pressured him to drop an investigation into former national security adviser Michael Flynn's ties to Russia in congressional testimony, CNN said, citing an unidentified source close to the issue. The Senate Intelligence Committee said on May 19 that Comey, who was fired by Trump 10 days earlier,

would testify before the panel publicly at some point after Monday's Memorial Day holiday. CNN said the testimony could come as early as next week. After Comey's dismissal, news reports emerged that Trump asked Comey to end the Flynn probe during a February meeting in the Oval Office. REUTERS

VENEZUELAN PROTEST

4 A Demonstrators are sprayed by a riot police water cannon, during a protest against President Nicolas Maduro's government, in Caracas on Wednesday. Venezuelan authorities began signing up candidates for a planned constitutional reform body, a move that has inflamed deadly unrest stemming from anti-government protests. Opponents of socialist President Nicolas Maduro say he aims to keep himself in power by stacking the planned "constituent assembly" with his allies. GETTY IMAGES

NASA LAUNCHING PROBE FOR SUN'S ATMOSPHERE

5 A U.S. spacecraft set to launch next year will make a series of unprecedented dives into the sun's scorching atmosphere to see how the star works and what can be done to better predict space weather events on Earth, scientists said on Wednesday. The Parker Solar Probe will have to survive temperatures as high as 2,500 degrees Fahrenheit (1,371 Celsius), impacts by supersonic particles and powerful radiation as it circles as close as 4 million miles to the sun. Data sent back to Earth some 89 million miles away will help scientists figure out why the sun's atmosphere, or corona, is hotter than its surface. "We're going to be seven times closer [to the sun] than any other mission has ever been," project scientist Nicola Fox, with Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Maryland, said during a broadcast on NASA TV. REUTERS

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LENYON WHITAKER, MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

A Hermès Himalayan Birkin handbag recently sold for a record-setting price at Christie's auction house in Hong Kong. The bag is made from crocodile skin and features gold buckles and diamond encrusted strap loops. Find out how much this luxury bag sold for at the auction at **metro.us/news**

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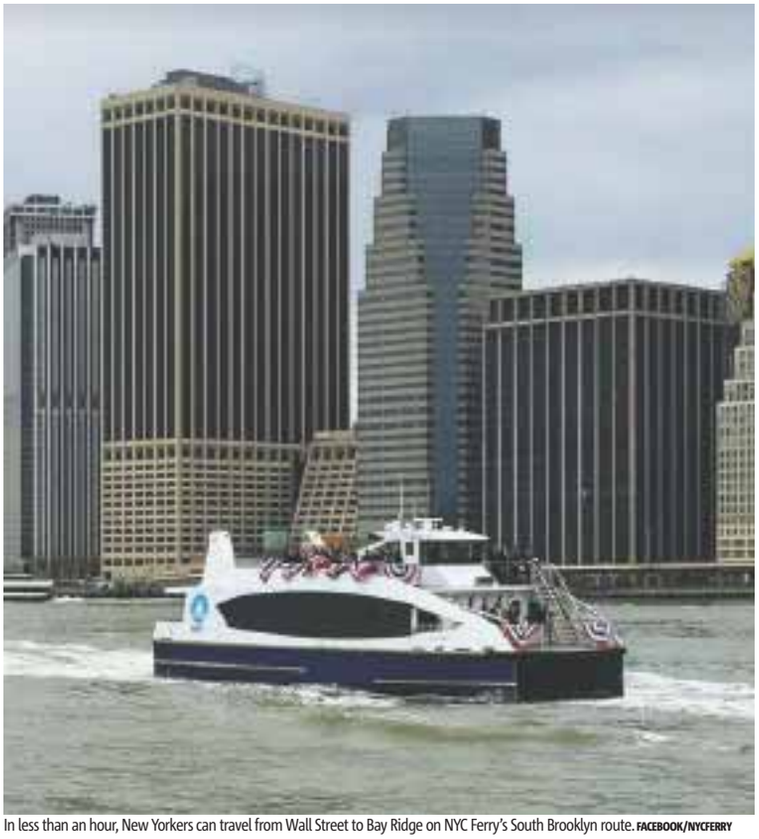

In less than an hour, New Yorkers can travel from Wall Street to Bay Ridge on NYC Ferry's South Brooklyn route. FACEBOOK/NYCFERRY

NYC Ferry sets sail for South Brooklyn

In less than an hour, New Yorkers can travel from Wall Street to Bay Ridge.

NIKKI M. MASCALI
@MetroNewYork
nikki.mascali@metro.us

If you live in lower Brooklyn and spend your daily commute dreaming of fresh air and a water view, you're in luck. The NYC Ferry is set to launch its route to South Brooklyn on Thursday.

In just under an hour, riders will be able to travel from Wall Street's Pier 11 to Bay Ridge. Stops include Pier 1 in Brooklyn Bridge Park in Dumbo, Pier 6 in Brooklyn Bridge Park at Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic Basin in Red Hook and the Brooklyn Army Terminal in Sunset Park and Bay Ridge. During the summer months, the ferry, which is operated by Hornblower, will also stop at Governors Island between Atlantic Avenue and Red Hook.

Each of the stops has nearby access to MTA buses or subways, and all but Dumbo have a covered waiting area, according to the NYC Ferry website. Some stops also have nearby Citi Bike stations as well.

The South Brooklyn route comes on the heels of the opening of NYC Ferry's Rockaway route, which opened May 1. That sails from Wall Street to Sunset Park and Rockaway, Queens, in about an hour.

"The ferry service and its future will be determined by how many people use it," Mayor Bill de Blasio said during a news conference about the launch on Wednesday. "If ridership keeps growing, we will add routes and capacity. We want people out of the streets, out of the cars … the subways are so congested; we'd like this to be another option."

An Astoria route is slated to open in August and will connect Wall Street to Astoria, stopping at Roosevelt Island, Long Island City and East 34th Street.

Hornblower will launch two more routes in the summer of 2018. The first, the Lower East Side route, will travel from Wall Street to Long Island City in just over 30 minutes, while the Soundview route will sail from Wall Street to Soundview/Clason Point in the Bronx in about 45 minutes.

Hornblower also offers an East River route, which connects Wall Street to East 34th Street via Hunters Point South in Queens and Greenpoint, North and South Williamsburg, and Dumbo in Brooklyn, as well as Governors Island during the summer.

Where can I get an NYC Ferry ticket?
Tickets for the ferry can be purchased via a mobile app, the ferry.nyc website or via a ticket agent or vending machine at each landing.

How much does an NYC Ferry ticket cost?
Pricing is $2.75 for an adult one-way ride, with an additional $1 ticket for a bicycle. Adult passes are $121 monthly or $141 for a monthly ticket with bicycle.

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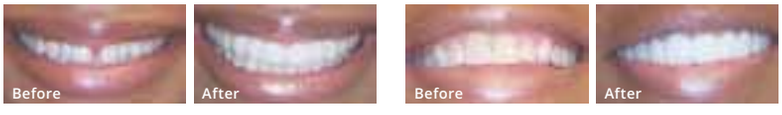

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Advocates renew effort to end New York City's outdated cabaret laws

Prohibition-era law still says any New York City bar where three or more people dance requires a special license.

ALAN KRAWITZ
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

New York's antiquated cabaret law may still be putting the kibosh on dancing at bars. ISTOCK

Dancing can be many things, from a fun type of exercise to the ultimate form of cultural expression. But in New York City, it's not always legal.

Bar and club owners citywide have been wrestling for nearly a century with the questionably enforced cabaret law, which dates back to 1926 and requires venues to have a special cabaret license if three or more people decide to dance.

But now, a coalition of dance activists and supporters are hoping to once again get their groove on with the launch of a renewed campaign to repeal the Prohibition-era law.

The law originally was a tool enacted to keep Harlem jazz clubs in check and to prevent racial intermingling, according to city history. Activists have called the law everything from racist to ridiculous.

Greg Miller, executive director of Dance Parade, a nonprofit founded in response to the city's cabaret laws and a key voice calling for repeal, is concerned that the number of cabaret licenses across the city continues to decline.

"Speaking for the 10,000 dancers who danced down Broadway earlier this month in the 11th Annual Dance Parade," said Miller, "we're shocked that there are only 93 places to dance, half of what it was when Dance Parade started 11 years ago."

Last year, there were reportedly only about 127 cabaret license holders citywide, of NYC's more than 12,000 bars and clubs, according to city records.

Olympia Kazi, a member of the NYC Artist Coalition, which advocates for community-driven cultural spaces, said, "We believe strongly that there is no place for such a law in a contemporary civil society."

Brooklyn City Councilman Rafael Espinal Jr., chairman of the Consumer Affairs Committee, said he plans to introduce legislation to repeal the abiding cabaret laws.

Police sources and politicians have said in the past the cabaret laws are used as tools to control and/or close problem clubs and venues citywide.

Espinal, during a recent interview on WNYC's Brian Lehrer Show, said the city should address safety violations by using existing laws in place that deal with such issues and not just cite violations of the cabaret law.

Echoing a caller who implied that the law's use has racial overtones, Espinal said that many "black and Latino bar owners do suffer" under the cabaret law by being targeted more frequently than other non-ethnic venues.

One Brooklyn bar owner, who did not want his venue named for fear of retaliation by the city, said that the real issue for club owners is not so much the associated fines for building code or fire safety regulations, but that a club can be shut down permanently after a third cabaret law violation.

Club owners say most venues are unable to get cabaret licenses for a variety of reasons, mainly due to the fact that the club must be located in a manufacturing district — which few are.

Other licensing hurdles include mandatory digital video security, approvals from the building and fire departments as well as costly licensing fees that can range from $300 to more than $1,000 depending on a venue's size and date of filing.

A spokesperson for City Hall would not comment directly on the repeal efforts but expressed a willingness to listen.

"While we cannot comment due to pending litigation, we will review any feedback on this issue," the spokesperson said.

Andrew Muchmore, an attorney who owns Muchmore's Café in Williamsburg, the site of a recent panel discussion to repeal the cabaret law, has an ongoing case in federal court challenging the law.

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FBI arrests 19 accused New York mobsters linked to Lucchese family

The Lucchese family was suspected of pulling off the 1978 airport heist that inspired the film "Goodfellas."

Federal agents in New York on Wednesday arrested the alleged leaders of the Lucchese crime family, a network of criminals who were the source of inspiration for the acclaimed mobster film "Goodfellas."

Defendants with nicknames including "Paulie Roast Beef" and "Joey Glasses" were among 19 people charged with crimes ranging from murder to the illegal sale of cigarettes, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York said in a statement.

The most prominent defendants were Matthew Madonna, 81, a suspected street boss for the Lucchese family, Steven Crea Sr., 69, also known as "Wonder Boy," who is a suspected underboss, and suspected consigliere Joseph DiNapoli, 81.

Prosecutors say the trio make up the Lucchese family's administration, otherwise known as its top-ranking members.

The crimes were committed in connection to a larger racketeering scheme run out of New York and date back at least 17 years, prosecutors said.

The Lucchese family is considered to be one of five long-established Mafia organizations that operate in New York City and New Jersey, also known as La Cosa Nostra, which originated in Italy.

"As today's charges demonstrate, La Cosa Nostra remains alive and active in New York City, but so does our commitment to eradicate the mob's parasitic presence," Acting U.S. Attorney Joon Kim said in a statement.

Of the 19 defendants, 15 were taken into custody from neighborhoods across New York and New Jersey, prosecutors said. The four other defendants were already imprisoned on other charges.

Charges against Paul Cassano, 38, known as "Paulie Roast Beef" and Joseph Datello, 66, also called "Joey Glasses" or "Big Joe" include attempted murder.

William F. Sweeney Jr. FBI

> *"Their crimes aren't victimless."*
>
> FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge William F. Sweeney Jr.

"Their crimes aren't victimless, and this case proves they're willing to use murder and many other violent tactics to enforce their dominance," FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge William F. Sweeney Jr. said in the same statement.

A spokeswoman for the Federal Bureau of Investigation's New York office said agents had arrested about 20 people on Wednesday in an organized crime bust. More details about the charges and arrests would be released later in the day, the FBI wrote on Twitter.

Attorneys for the defendants could not immediately be reached for comment. REUTERS

Acting U.S. Attorney Joon Kim GETTY IMAGES

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‘Hamilton’ redux: New York man charged in $70M ticket scheme

Tickets to the Broadway show “Hamilton” GETTY IMAGES

A former Queens math teacher is charged with a Ponzi scheme involving tickets to the Super Bowl, Broadway’s “Hamilton” and the World Cup.

A New York man has been criminally charged with running a $70 million Ponzi scheme centered on the fake resale of tickets to events including football’s Super Bowl, soccer’s World Cup, the U.S. Open tennis tournament and the Broadway musical “Hamilton.”

The arrest of Jason Nissen, 44, of Roslyn on Long Island, came 14 years after he was caught selling tickets to a free Dave Matthews Band concert to students at the Queens, New York high school where he then taught math.

Nissen’s case is the second since January alleging that investors were defrauded over the sale of tickets to “Hamilton” and other popular events.

In that case, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filed civil charges accusing Joseph Meli and Matthew Harriton of running a $97 million scam involving at least 138 investors.

Both have denied wrongdoing. Meli and another defendant were separately charged in a related criminal case.

Michael Bachner, a lawyer for Nissen, declined to comment.

Prosecutors said Nissen, the chief executive of New York-based National Event Co, had lured investors since 2015 by promising to profitably buy and resell tickets.

But they said he diverted much of their money to enrich himself and repay earlier investors and used falsified documents and inflated accounts receivable ledgers, with the help of Photoshop, to conceal his fraud.

Nissen’s victims allegedly included a private equity firm that invested $40 million and a Manhattan diamond wholesaler that has yet to recoup half of the $32 million it lent.

According to court papers, Nissen admitted his scheme to two victims this month.

Prosecutors said he told an executive at the diamond wholesaler on a May 7 phone call discussing a cache of “Hamilton” tickets that “some of it was real and some of it was fake.... The numbers are just all multiplied.”

The next day, at a videotaped meeting with the executive and the wholesaler’s chief financial officer, Nissen said he would go to jail if they did not provide more money, prosecutors said. REUTERS

CRIME

New York City police officer charged with murder in woman’s shooting

New York City police sergeant was charged on Wednesday with murdering an emotionally disturbed black woman whom he shot inside her apartment last year, police and prosecutors said.

Sergeant Hugh Barry, 31, was arrested on charges of murder in the first degree, manslaughter in the first and second degrees and criminally negligent homicide in the death of Deborah Danner, the Bronx district attorney’s office said.

Barry pleaded not guilty to the charges in the Bronx Supreme Court on Wednesday afternoon, according to his union-appointed lawyer, Andrew Quinn, the general counsel of the New York City Sergeants Benevolent Association. Quinn declined further comment.

Ahmed Nasser, a police department spokesman, declined to comment on the arrest beyond confirming details of the charges.

Danner’s shooting drew criticism from Mayor Bill de Blasio at the time and was seen as one of a string of episodes across the United States where police have been criticized as using excessive force against black people and the mentally ill.

Barry, who is white, entered Danner’s apartment in the Bronx on October 18, 2016. He arrived after other police officers and paramedics had already arrived on the scene, responding to a neighbor who had called the police to say Danner was acting irrationally and screaming in the hallway, according to the district attorney.

At one point, Danner, 66, picked up a pair of scissors as she resisted Barry’s efforts to take her to hospital. She then held a wooden bat towards him before Barry shot her twice in the torso with his service revolver. REUTERS

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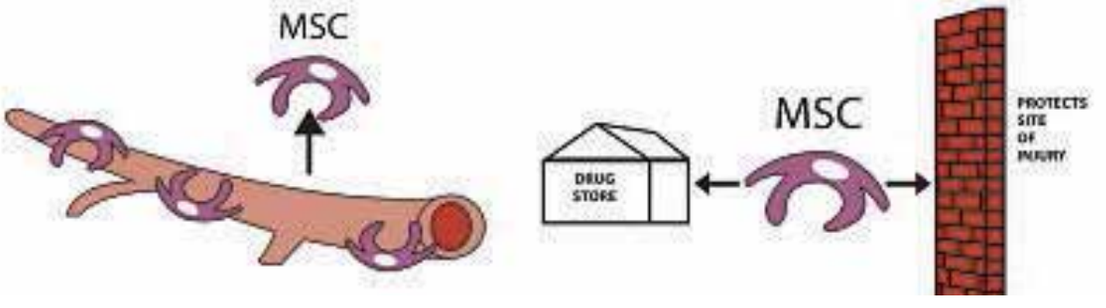

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NBA star LeBron James' L.A. home vandalized with racial slur

Basketball superstar LeBron James' Los Angeles home was vandalized with a racial slur, police said on Wednesday, a day before the Cleveland Cavaliers player was set to take the court in the first game of the NBA finals.

The graffiti was spray-painted on the front gate of James' house. Investigators are looking for any possible suspect involved, Los Angeles police spokeswoman Norma Eisenman said.

Eisenman declined to specify the racial slur used. It was reported to police shortly after dawn on Wednesday and has since been painted over, she said.

"No matter how much money you have, no matter how famous you are, no matter how many people admire you, being black in America is tough," James, a three-time NBA champion, told reporters when asked about the incident at a news conference in Oakland, California, where he is preparing for the NBA Finals.

"And we've got a long way to go for us as a society and for us as African-Americans until we feel equal in America," he added.

James was not at his west Los Angeles residence at the time of the vandalism, Eisenman said by phone.

James, 32, is the NBA's most prolific playoff scorer and has been named the league's Most Valuable Player four times. The Cavaliers are scheduled to face off on Thursday against the Golden State Warriors in Oakland.

Mary Kay Wulf, who lives a couple houses away from James, told a group of reporters that she was appalled by the vandalism.

"I hope that they find the people who have done it and they label it for what it was - a hate crime - and punish them," Wulf said. REUTERS

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Man arrested at Trump's Washington hotel after guns found in his car

Exterior view of Trump International Hotel, Washington DC. GETTY IMAGES

The Secret Service said in a statement it was also investigating the incident but said that no one under its protection was ever at risk.

A Pennsylvania man was arrested at President Donald Trump's Washington hotel early on Wednesday after police found a rifle, pistol and ammunition in his car, a discovery they said may have prevented a disaster in the U.S. capital.

Bryan Moles, 43, of Edinboro, was taken into custody shortly after checking in to the Trump International Hotel a few blocks from the White House, Metropolitan Police Chief Peter Newsham said at a news conference.

A tipster had told the Pennsylvania State Police that Moles was traveling to Washington with weapons, and the information was passed on to the Secret Service and Washington police, Newsham said.

"I believe that the officers and our federal partners and in particular the tipster coming forward averted a potential disaster here in our nation's capital," Newsham said.

Moles was arrested without incident, the chief said.

Asked about reports that Moles had made threatening remarks, Newsham said his motive was under investigation and there was not enough information to charge Moles with making threats. The nature of the threats has not been divulged.

Police had been told Moles had a Glock 23 pistol and a Carbon 15 Bushmaster rifle, an incident report said. Officers saw one of the guns in his car and found a second firearm in the glove compartment.

Moles also had 30 rounds of 7.62 mm ammunition and 60 .223-caliber rounds, the report said. He was charged with two counts of carrying a pistol without a license and possessing unregistered ammunition.

Police spokeswoman Karimah Bilal had no information about an attorney for Moles.

Trump's hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue, housed in a landmark former post office, has become a focal point for protests against the Republican president since he took office in January. REUTERS

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Ohio AG sues five drug companies over opioid crisis

A growing number of state and local governments are suing drugmakers and distributors, seeking to hold them accountable for the opioid crisis.

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine said Wednesday his office sued five major drug manufacturers, accusing them of misrepresenting the risks of prescription opioid painkillers and so helping fuel a sky-rocketing drug addiction epidemic.

The five companies Ohio sued were Purdue Pharma LP, Johnson & Johnson's Janssen Pharmaceuticals Inc. unit, a unit of Endo International PLC, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.'s Cephalon unit and Allergan PLC, DeWine said during a news conference in Columbus live streamed online.

He argued the drug companies spent millions of dollars to promote the drugs for profit while denying or trivializing their potential addictive qualities.

"These companies continue to mislead the public," DeWine said.

Janssen spokeswoman Jessica Castles Smith said in an emailed statement: "The allegations in this lawsuit are both legally and factually unfounded."

She said Janssen has acted responsibly regarding its opioid pain medications, which are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and carry FDA-mandated warnings on their labels about the drugs' known risks.

Purdue, which makes Oxycontin, said in an emailed statement:

"We share the attorney general's concerns about the opioid crisis and we are committed to working collaboratively to find solutions."

The other companies did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The suit, filed in Ross County, in Southern Ohio, where addiction has hit hard, also seeks damages for the money the state has spent on the fallout, DeWine said.

Opioid drugs, including prescription painkillers and heroin, killed more than 33,000 people in the United States in 2015, more than any year on record, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In Ohio, figures from 88 county coroners show that more than 4,100 people died from drug overdoses last year, according to figures compiled recently by the Columbus Dispatch. REUTERS

Bottles of Purdue Pharma LP OxyContin sit on a pharmacy shelf. GETTY IMAGES

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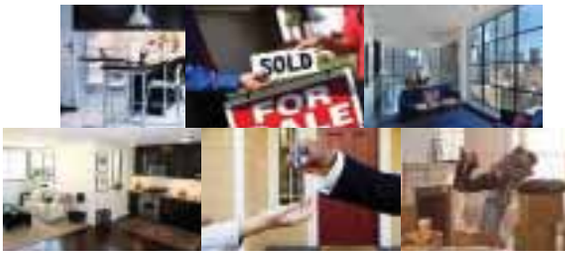

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NYC rehab chain Narco Freedom pleads guilty to corruption

New York state Attorney General Eric Schneiderman GETTY IMAGES

A trustee for a Bronx-based chain of drug and alcohol rehabilitation clinics pleaded guilty on its behalf to stealing millions of dollars from Medicaid, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman said on Wednesday.

The plea came 2 1/2 years after the attorney general accused Narco Freedom and some of its officials of trying to plunder the nonprofit and defraud Medicaid of at least $27 million.

Narco Freedom trustee Alan Nisselson entered the guilty plea to charges of enterprise corruption, grand larceny and filing false paperwork, Schneiderman said.

Criminal charges against four officials, including Narco Freedom founder Alan Brand and Gerald Bethea, who both served as chief executive, remain pending, Schneiderman said.

The attorney general has said Narco Freedom, which operated in New York City, cheated Medicaid by submitting claims for excessive services, operating unregulated treatment programs and coercing patients who lived in its Freedom Houses to remain in treatment.

He also said some Narco Freedom officials siphoned money to fund lavish lifestyles.

Justice Steven Barrett of the state supreme court sentenced Narco Freedom to a conditional discharge, the attorney general said.

Narco Freedom filed for bankruptcy protection in January 2016.

On May 15, a federal bankruptcy judge approved a $118.4 million settlement with the U.S. government and New York state to resolve its claims in the Chapter 7 case.

That money has not been divided up. The governments had asserted combined claims of $588.7 million, court papers show.

Narco Freedom once claimed to provide substance abuse, medical, mental health and social services to more than 36,500 people, including patients and family members. REUTERS

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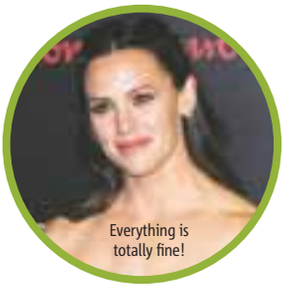
Jennifer Garner is A-OK, thanks for asking


Everything is totally fine!

Jennifer Garner — or perhaps, a source close to Jennifer Garner, or Jennifer Garner in the guise of an anonymous source, who knows? — wants you to know she is doing great after her recent divorce from Sad Ben Affleck. Just in case you were wondering.

According to People, she's settling in just fine as a single mom. The 45-year-old, who filed for divorce from Affleck, 44, in April is doing A-OK. "This has really been the most difficult decision for her," says the source. "But it's time to focus on the future."

Part of the future is all those dang kids they have — Seraphina, 11, Violet, 8, and Samuel, 5. "They want to be sure the kids are comfortable," says the source who is close to both Garner and Affleck. Pretty sure it's Seraphina herself. "It's all in step with what they've always said was the most important thing: their children. … She still says Ben was the love of her life."

Imagine a world where sad, sweaty Ben Affleck is the love of your life. This woman has suffered enough already.

Scott Speedman is still talking about "Felicity," Keri Russell

It was almost 20 years ago, but sure!
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Scott Speedman, a standard-issue Ken doll, was on "Felicity" nearly 20 years ago. And yet, he went on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" and talked about being a bad boyfriend to Keri Russell so long ago.

Trotting down memory lane with Russell herself, the 41-year-old admitted that he was once a disaster. Especially after that disaster of a haircut Felicity got in season two. You know the one.

"We were actually dating at the time, and I had been such a disaster of a boyfriend," Speedman says. "And I knew I had to put on a good show, and that I was going to see her new haircut. ... And I got to work, and she turned around the corner and my face sort of froze in a half-panic/half-smile situation. I did not pull it off. And [she] called me out. It was a Chia head sort of vibe."

At least Russell made it out just fine.

Has Rob Kardashian moved on?

Looks like Rob's hands are full.

Rob Kardashian has taken to Instagram to lovingly post pictures of Blac Chyna from her humble beginnings. You know, back when she was Angela White and went to my high school (true story).

In one picture of Chyna as a mere youth, he wrote, "In my first episode of Rob's Random Cornball Thoughts is this young lady who grew up to be the woman I love and the mother of my child." Sure!

So Rob still loves Chyna. But are they back together? According to In Touch, probably not.

An insider tells the magazine that the 30-year-old is moving on with reality star Mehgan James. I'm sorry, who? "Rob's been seeing Meghan James for almost three months, and most of the Kardashians are very upset about it... [they] want Rob to find a woman who is kind and calm." Unlikely!

The source suggests that James is doing it for fame, which, duh. Everyone is in it with the Kardashians for the fame. They should kind of expect that by now, no?

Pippa Middleton's is enjoying a very basic honeymoon right now

It's cool to be basic, y'all. Embrace it.

Pippa Middleton and James Matthews — two British people who, although rich, are not royalty — had the society wedding of the year in May. It was, as far as British parties go, lit.

Now Middleton, 33, and her husband Matthews, 41, are on their honeymoon, and enjoying a spot of so-called adventure in Sydney, Australia. Or at least, that's what Hello! Magazine wants you to believe — the site refers to the pair as "a daredevil couple" just because they "braved the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge climb." Not to brag, but I did that, too. And it's not hard or adventurous. It's basic AF. It's literally just very slow walking.

You know what else is basic? Strolling around hand in hand in French Polynesia, which they did. Holding hands is basic! You know what else is basic? Starting your day off with a jog through Sydney's historic Royal Botanic Gardens — which they did! Exercising is basic. What are you trying to be, healthy and better than the rest of us? Oh, you are? OK.

Anyway, a happy continued honeymoon to these two. May it be everything that basics dream of.

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Connie Nielsen is no fan of sexist idiots

The actress talks about playing Wonder Woman's mom and hoping Hollywood changes its tune.

MATT PRIGGE
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In "Wonder Woman," Connie Nielsen plays Hippolyta, warrior queen and mother of Gal Gadot's Diana Prince. WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Connie Nielsen is proud to play Wonder Woman's mom. In the new solo adventure for DC's mightiest female warrior, the Danish actress, 51, plays Hippolyta, queen of an alternate dimension of Amazon warrior women. She's none-too-pleased when her daughter, Gal Gadot's Diana, decides to enter the human world, where she winds up fighting in World War I.

Nielsen, one of the stars of "Gladiator" and "One Hour Photo," talks to us about how we should judge it as a great movie, not just a great movie starring a woman, and about Hollywood's weird obsession with making white, straight men the heroes.

GETTY

Apart from the fuss they've made over the Alamo Drafthouse's female-only "Wonder Woman" screenings, so far men's rights activists have been pretty quiet.

I mean, we'll see. You'll see some of that misogyny coming out eventually. But so far, so good.

They can't be completely silent. They probably didn't all have sudden about-faces and discover what shame is.

I have a feeling that these people don't know the meaning of the word "shame." I don't think these people feel shame or question those kinds of feelings. That's the point. Theirs is a reaction of fear. Their emotional makeup is just underdeveloped.

There's a great scene in "Wonder Woman" where Gal Gadot is in a room full of male generals, and she loudly tells them off. They don't know what hit them.

I think that's my favorite part of the movie. They're looking like they're about to eat their mustaches when they see a woman in the room. I love the way Gal plays that scene; she doesn't even understand what their issue is. It doesn't occur to her that she's not supposed to be there.

That's a feeling all women have experienced time and time again: a majority of men who don't want to listen to a strong woman.

I saw research that says the magic number when diversity is no longer an issue on a company board is 30 percent. When there's 30 percent of women or 30 percent of different races, then all of a sudden it becomes a tenable discussion to attack or modify the prevalent asymmetry. It's good to know. It only takes 30 percent to make change. That's not too hard to get to.

The media is the message

This has a lot of genuinely positive messages for the audience, which you don't always see from Hollywood.

That's so true. My youngest is 10, and I'm still wondering if some of those producers and directors and writers are completely oblivious to how weird it is that they're always putting the white, male, heterosexual guy as the automatic leader. There are five people, two of which are girls and another two who are of different races. And of course they choose the white, heterosexual male as the leader of the gang. Is no one here conscious of how untimely that kind of vision is?

The white, heterosexual male is usually our guide into this magical world of diversity. The posters are a bunch of people of different races and genders, with the white guy at the center.

And they just don't know that that's not real diversity. That's just paying lip service to what is essentially still a white, male society. If it's just lip service or whatever's currently in the zeitgeist, doesn't that just mean that we're still embracing conformity? It should always be about the true values of a future world community.

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I cried watching 'Wonder Woman'

JENNA BUSCH

Geek Girl in Hollywood

Jenna Busch takes on the way pop culture snubs its female fans. For more columns, visit metro.us/jenna-busch as well as her site, Legion of Leia (legionofleia.com)

We're so thrilled that "Wonder Woman," starring Gal Gadot and in theaters June 2, is excellent. WARNER BROS. PICTURES

By now, you've read the reviews of "Wonder Woman." Even if you haven't, you're probably aware that it's getting great ones. I was lucky enough to see the first press screening and go to the premiere, so I feel like I've had my emotional viewing, plus one where I was able to watch more critically. I loved it both times. There are so many subtle things in it that, as I said in my review, that it will benefit from a rewatch. I don't want to ruin the movie for anyone, so this post will be spoiler free. (It will include things from the trailers though.) I don't want to go into plot detail, but I do want to talk about the impact it had.

I cried. I'm not going to try to hide that. (Well, I did try to hide it during the premiere, but when I left, everyone else was crying, too.) To be able to see my childhood hero on the big screen, headlining her own film — well, it was mind-blowing. I am not a crier by nature, especially not during films. This took me by surprise. So, without spoiling anything, here are some reasons why.

First, after dressing up as Wonder Woman as a little girl, having a Wonder Woman birthday party, learning her spin exactly from the TV series, writing chapters for a book about her, editing the book and covering women in geekdom, you can see why seeing her might strike a chord. That's a given, I guess.

The second thing was: this Wonder Woman isn't the same as every other superhero. You know what I mean — the characters that could just as easily have been men, angry and brooding, with dark revenge in mind. She wasn't dark at all. Wonder Woman is joyous, powerful, naive about war (she's never seen it in her lifetime), desperate to save everyone. In a way, it's a child's state of mind when they first learn about suffering. And watching her grow and still maintain that sense of purpose and optimism, despite what she's seen — we haven't had a superhero like that before.

Third, she wasn't shot to be sexy. Now, no one in their right mind would say that Gal Gadot is anything but hot, and she's certainly shot beautifully. But in her fight scenes, she's shot to look strong. Watch the scene where she's about to go into battle in her Wonder Woman armor — she looks powerful, not sexualized. And yet she looks wonderful. (Sorry, not sorry.)

Finally, that "save me" trope — you know, the one where the woman is superstrong until the very end when the guy rushes in to save her. It's not there. Everyone helps each other, but she is the superhero. Wonder Woman is the strong one. She's powerful, full of compassion, smart and determined. She is everything I always wished for as a kid. The fact that kids of all genders now have this film to watch — there go the tears again — means more to me than I can say. Please go see this film opening weekend (June 2) and show the studios that we need more.

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Not an accurate depiction of the McDelivery service.
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

McDonald's now comes to you

McDelivery hits the tristate area — though, as usual, Staten Island is out of luck.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

First, there was all-day breakfast. Now, in McDonald's latest move to free us from the conventional constraints of time and place, the fast-food chain is expanding its McDelivery service to the tristate area.

Beginning May 31, you can order from about 300 of the about 600 McDonald's restaurants in four boroughs of New York City (sorry, Staten Island), plus Nassau and Westchester counties, as well as Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Passaic counties in New Jersey and Connecticut's Fairfield County.

Though McDonald's has its own app for advance ordering and mobile pay, the McDelivery service is run by UberEats. Orders can be placed online or through the UberEats app, which charges a booking fee — an interesting proposition for a brand that's struggled with introducing premium menu items.

The full menu is available, with the exception of soft-serve ice cream cones. Don't they know it's almost summer?

Restaurant delivery is a $100 billion business, and McDonald's has been experimenting with various services since January, starting with 200 locations in Miami, then expanding to Chicago, Los Angeles and several other major cities.

The chain also recently brought its Store of the Future to Chelsea, but we draw the line at the sriracha-flavored Big Mac just introduced in Ohio. Why mess with a good thing?

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things to do

Party at the McCarren's Hamptons-inspired pool. CHELSEA HOTELS

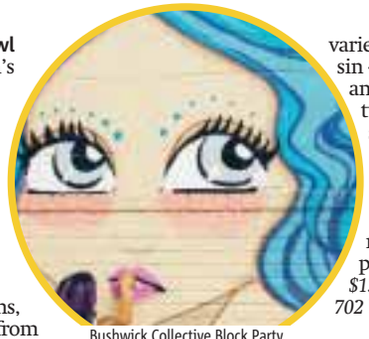
Best of June

This city isn't waiting for the official start of summer on June 22 to kick its events schedule into gear. Get started with our guide to this month's must-do events. **EVA KIS**

June 1-3: Scooper Bowl
After 35 years, Boston's ice cream fundraiser is making the leap to NYC with three days of all-you-can-eat treats from some of the biggest names in the frozen dessert business. There will be açai sorbet from Sambazon, vegan ice cream from DF Mavens, a taste of upstate NY from Adirondack Creamery, plus flavors from Haagen-Dazs, Ben & Jerry's, Big Gay Ice Cream and more. *$25, noon-9 p.m., Bryant Park's Fountain Terrace (Sixth Avenue & 41st Street)*

June 3: Bushwick Collective Block Party
More than 30 of the top graffiti and street artists in the world come together in NYC's best open-air art gallery for a day of creating new works. You've got a front-row seat to all the action, along with music by Busta Rhymes, Cam'ron and more, plus a Modelo beer garden and some rad face painting for kids. *Free, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., 7 Saint Nicholas Ave., Brooklyn*

June 3: Veuve Clicquot Polo Classic
Forget pizza in the park and experience the most luxe picnic of the year. Neil Patrick Harris is your host for the 10th annual Veuve Clicquot Polo Classic, with a concert by Alicia Keys. Enjoy the festivities while sipping the brand's new Rich Rosé champagne meant to be served over ice. *$150+, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Liberty State Park, New Jersey*



Bushwick Collective Block Party FACEBOOK

June 3-4: Greenpoint Open Studios
This is your one chance all year for a behind-the-canvas peek inside the studios of artists and designers in Greenpoint. Observe in-progress works of paintings, sculptures, film, photography, textiles, ceramics and more by artists just starting out as well as established names. *Download the map at greenpointopenstudios.com.*

June 5: Taste of Times Square
You won't have to wonder where to eat in the Theater District ever again after this lively street fair with grub from more than 40 restaurants all around Times Square, accompanied by live performances (of course). *Admission is free, while dishes range from $2-$6. 5-9 p.m., 46th Street between Broadway and 10th Avenue*

June 8: Atlas Obscura LIVE: Sin
Rulebreakers, it's time to learn a few new tricks. Join the social explorers of Atlas Obscura for a live variety show all about sin — big, small, historic and everything in between — featuring scholars, comedians, musicians and other special guests all sharing their stories about enjoying the more scandalous pleasures of life. *$15, 8 p.m., Union Hall, 702 Union St.*

June 10: Hustle Fest: A Freelance Career Fair
Thinking of ditching your 9-to-5? Learn how to master the challenges of the freelance scene at this first-ever festival, with a day of workshops like Personal Branding for Freelance Unicorns and From Order-Taker to Bo$$, then wrap with an industry happy hour. *$25, noon-7 p.m., New Women Space, 188 Woodpoint Rd.*

Taste of Times Square PROVIDED

June 13: Museum Mile
The Upper East Side's biggest block party of the year closes down Fifth Avenue for a night of kid-friendly fun from 82nd to 105th streets, with tons of free entertainment, activities and free admission to all seven museums along the way, from the Guggenheim to El Museo del Barrio. *6-9 p.m.*

June 16-17: Lust
There's an art to intimacy, the slow build of pleasure in another's company — something we could all use a reminder of in our instant gratification world. Abby Hertz's Lust party comes to Lot 45 beginning with IT an erotic dinner party of eight courses all served off naked bodies and hand fed to you. The party doesn't stop there; next up is an interactive art installations and live music, which you can enjoy from a cuddle puddle, in a dungeon or anything else lurking in your lustful heart (short of actual sex). *7 p.m.-3 a.m., 411 Troutman St., Brooklyn*

June 17: Mermaid Parade
Despite some rough financial waters, Coney Island's spectacular parade of all that is beautiful, bearded and proudly freaky under the sea comes up on dry land for its 35th year, led by Debbie Harry and Chris Stein of Blondie. *1 p.m., parade starts at West 21st Street and Surf Avenue*

June 20: Night at the Museums
Lower Manhattan's tourist attractions seem to be growing by the day, from hot new restaurants to outdoor events all summer at the South Street Seaport. For one night a year, you can take a whirlwind tour of 15 cultural and historical institutions — all for free. Learn how we build soaring structures at the Skyscraper Museum, stand where George Washington was sworn in as our first president inside Federal Hall and meet the original Americans at the National Museum of the American Indian. *4-8 p.m., mjhnyc.org*

Coney Island Mermaid Parade PROVIDED

June 21: Pool Party at the McCarren
You'll have to act fast when tickets go on sale to this epic pool party on June 18 — over 5,000 people are interested in a spot on the McCarren's glorious Hamptons-inspired pool deck for this annual party. Your $49 ticket gets you free prosecco, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres while a DJ sets the poolside vibe to ultra summer fun. *21+, 3:30-6 p.m., 160 N. 12th St.*

June 24: Prospect Park Soiree
This glamorous dinner party for a good cause won't leave you eating instant ramen for the rest of the month. Celebrate the 150th anniversary of Prospect Park at this all-white DIY dinner party under the stars: You bring the food, wine, silverware and all your fabulous friends and tableware, they'll bring the DJ, lawn games, tables and chairs. Proceeds support the park's maintenance and programs. *$40, must be 21+, 5 p.m., 95 Prospect Park W.*

June 25: Taste the World
The Upper West Side's year-round outdoor flea market Grand Bazaar welcomes a globe-spanning food festival of 40 restaurants and brands bringing everything from Italian subs to Caribbean fruit ice pops. *Free entry, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 100 W. 77th St.*

June 30: A Night at the Museum
Your chance at an adults-only sleepover with the dinosaurs and mummies of the American Museum of Natural History is back! Start the night at a champagne reception with live jazz music, then roam the kid-free halls until it's bedtime under the blue whale in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life. *$350, 6:30 p.m.- 9 a.m. July 1, Central Park West at 79th Street*

Live events like Governors Ball are a vital part of New York life, but the recording industry could use support. GETTY IMAGES

Can you hear it?

The first-ever New York Music Month is a 30-day party to celebrate the city's music makers and booty shakers.

LINDA LABAN
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

June is already unofficially music month, but a new event makes it official — and adds a whole lot of new ways to hear local artists and get inspired to make your own tunes.

Throughout June, the first-ever New York Music Month celebrates the history and importance of getting into the groove to the city's culture and economy with 30 days of free and ticketed events for both fans and musicians.

"June already has all these incredible music events, starting with Governors Ball this weekend, and it's the start of Celebrate Brooklyn and SummerStage," says Justin Kalifowitz of the advocacy group NY Is Music, which co-created Music Month with the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment.

"Music Month ties in with all the great city programming, but also has original programming; not only concerts, but events teaching musicians about resources, too."

For the public, there are music-related exhibits at the Museum of the City of New York and the Rubin Museum of Art, and a music-centric stroll. "The walking tours help New Yorkers understand what a musical breeding ground the city was and is," Kalifowitz says.

"It is very challenging for songwriters and musicians to wake up every morning and do what they do in this city."

NYC-based musicians, meanwhile, get some much-needed resources, including 2,000 hours of free rehearsal space donated by the community development agency SpaceWorks.

Despite the loss of smaller music venues and the ongoing fight over enforcement of the city's archaic cabaret license law, Kalifowitz doesn't see an ailing industry — quite the opposite. "The size and scale is staggering. A study found the city's music industry generates over $20 billion in output and $5 billion in wages."

Still, there are problems.

"The live music business is very healthy," Kalifowitz says. "The music tech businesses is going strong, but a broader view of the business shows some weak areas. The recording industry, for instance — relative to Los Angeles or Nashville, it isn't as healthy as it once was."

Besides drumming up new fans with events like Music Month, NY Is Music is also working behind the scenes to support the industry, currently lobbying for a tax credit to help recording artists.

"The music community had no formal engagement with the city before," says Kalifowitz. "NY Is Music has been advocating for dialog between the industry and officials for a long time.

"It is very challenging for songwriters and musicians to wake up every morning and do what they do in this city," he adds. "We need to celebrate what they do and support them."

NOTICE OF FRANCHISE AND CONCESSION REVIEW COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING ON AGENCY ANNUAL CONCESSION PLANS

Notice of a Franchise and Concession Review Committee (FCRC) Public Hearing on Agency Annual Concession Plans for Fiscal Year 2018 pursuant to Section 1-10 of the Concession Rules of the City of New York (Concession Rules), to be held on Monday, June 12, 2017, commencing at 2:30 P.M., and located at 22 Reade Street, Spector Hall, Manhattan. At this hearing, the FCRC will further solicit comments about the provisions of the Concession Rules from the vendor community, civic groups and the public at large. The FCRC shall consider the issues raised at the Public Hearing in accordance with the procedures set forth in the New York City Charter under the City Administrative Procedure Act.

The following agencies submitted an Annual Concession Plan for Fiscal Year 2018: the Department of Parks and Recreation; the Department of Citywide Administration Services; the Department of Environmental Protection; the Department of Homeless Services; the Department of Corrections; the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; the Department of Transportation; the New York City Fire Department; the Department of Housing Preservation and Development; the NYC & Company on behalf of the Department of Small Business Services; the New York City Economic Development Corporation on behalf of the Department of Small Business Services; and the New York City Police Department.

The portfolio of Agency Annual Concession Plans covers significant and non-significant concessions expiring, continuing and anticipated for solicitation or initiation in Fiscal Year 2018. Furthermore, the portfolio covers, *inter alia*:

- Department of Parks and Recreation: mobile food units, food service facilities, golf courses, driving ranges, marinas, tennis professionals, athletic facilities, Christmas trees, parking lots, markets, fairs, restaurants, concerts, newsstands, stables, gas stations, amusement venues, ice skating rinks, carousels, ferry services, bike rentals, circus, sailboat rentals, souvenirs and gifts, beach equipment, and event programming.
- Department of Citywide Administrative Services: maritime/non-maritime occupancy permits, and vending machines.
- Department of Environmental Protection: gas purification.
- Department of Homeless Services: athletic facilities.
- Department of Corrections: food services, mobile food units, vending machines and cell tower.
- Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: drug discount card program.
- Department of Transportation: vending machines, pedestrian plazas, food courts, cafés, market, and dispatch booth/pick-up area for car service.
- New York City Fire Department: fire museum and collections.
- Department of Housing Preservation and Development: café.
- NYC & Company on behalf of the Department of Small Business Services: marketing, advertising, intellectual property and trademark merchandising.
- New York City Economic Development Corporation on behalf of the Department of Small Business Services: parking lots, maritime and non-maritime occupancy permits.
- New York City Police Department: vending machines, ATMs and cafeteria.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the Agency Annual Concession Plans by contacting Stephanie Ruiz by phone at 212-386-5393. Hard copies will be provided at a cost of $.25 per page by check or money order made payable to the New York City Department of Finance. Upon request, a PDF version of the Agency Annual Concession Plans is available free of cost.

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Get up to the best rooftop bar of 2017

The main rooftop deck (of two) at The Crown.
ALL PHOTOS BRANDON HARDIN

Just look at that view!

Airy and bright, The Crown already feels like summer.

The Crown has insane views, interesting cocktails and Dale Talde's signature bites with an Asian twist.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

It isn't even summer yet, but we're calling it — Dale Talde's new rooftop bar The Crown is the best of the season.

Rising 21 floors above Chinatown, The Crown bar and lounge tops the new Hotel 50 Bowery, located between Canal and Bayard Streets. Since almost nothing around the hotel is even close to its height, the 360-degree view stretches from the gleaming towers of Midtown to the Brooklyn Bridge, the Freedom Tower to Williamsburg.

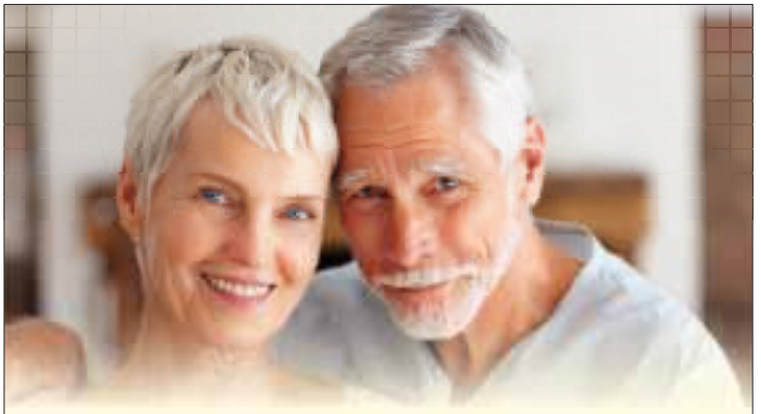
You can take in the views from several spots: two outdoor patios, a seat at the bar, several window-adjacent couches or a semi-private lounge area. And despite such a lofty name, the bar has a comfortable and casual ambiance, the kind of vibe you wish more rooftop bars would adopt.

The Asian-influenced cocktails and fare are inspired by the neighborhood. You'll wonder where the Thai basil and watermelon margarita has been all your life, while Szechuan tincture leaves a tingling finish on the signature Crown Manhattan. But especially key on a hot day, their boozy slushes will change with what's in season at local fruit vendors.

The modest menu of global street eats does indeed veer around the world, from a soft Bavarian pretzel with an intensely umami-rich mustard, spicy kimchi on a hotdog and popcorn sprinkled with nori. It's pure Dale Talde, a chef known for not hewing to tradition whatever cuisine he's taking on.

The Crown will be joined at Hotel 50 Bowery later this summer by a basement lounge called The Green Lady, which will have live entertainment, and a ground-floor fusion restaurant Rice & Gold that melds cuisines from Hong Kong to Mexico and Bangladesh.

The Crown is open Sun-Wed noon-2 a.m. and Thurs-Sat noon-4 a.m.



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Greta Garbo laughs with Melvin Howard in Ernst Lubitsch's "Ninotchka," screening during Film Forum's series on the great Hollywood director. FILM FORUM, PHOTOFEST

Hollywood at its most escapist

What on earth is "the Lubitsch Touch"? We all have our theories. But few us of agree. Some say it describes the witty, fashionable worlds of Ernst Lubitsch's films, divorced from our own. Billy Wilder, who co-wrote his Garbo-talks classic "Ninotchka," argued it was a way of following one joke with an even better one. Our take? His ability to see-saw from silliness to elegance, from joy to melancholy, and never make viewers feel the whiplash.

You can work on your own answer while plowing through "The Lubitsch Touch," Film Forum's two-week ode to one of Hollywood's most accomplished entertainers.

There's no single type of Lubitsch film. There's the historical dramas and romances and comedies of his long silent period. There's his early sound films, some of them musicals. Unlike many, Lubitsch didn't recoil from the new technology; he jumped in, like a kid with new toys. The musicals he made with Jeanette MacDonald and, usually, Maurice Chevalier are lighter than light, loopy yet moony, and boundlessly creative. His first, "The Love Parade," features a number in which dogs sing the chorus.

Lubitsch went all in during the saucy Pre-Code days. "Design for Living" is the only rom-com we can think of that ends with the girl (the invaluable Miriam Hopkins) choosing both her suitors (Frederic March and Gary Cooper). Once Hollywood clamped down on content, he was still daring. With "To Be or Not To Be," one of the surest and lightest hands in movies made a charming and hilarious assault on the Nazis — and in 1942, years before the war would end. You may leave the series having your answer to what defines "the Lubitsch touch." But no matter your answer, you're not wrong.

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ED CONDRAN
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letters@metro.us

When most folks think about the Florida Keys, the images conjured are of the most southern islands, such as Key West and Key Largo.

However, there are some gorgeous keys in the most northwestern part of the Sunshine State.

The best of both worlds can be found on Perdido Key, which sits just off the Florida/Alabama border. The private-island feeling you're looking for in a vacation is definitely present — *perdido* is Spanish for "lost," after all. Yet it's all less than half an hour from historic downtown Pensacola.

The barrier island stretches 16 miles from the edge of Pensacola to Perdido Pass Bridge. The powdery white sand beaches and the rolling dunes are covered with seat oats and make this a pristine oasis along the rapidly developing Florida Panhandle.

Perdido Beach is reminiscent of Saint Petersburg's Fort Desoto Beach, which was one of Florida's best kept secrets until magazines around the world gave the national park considerable coverage in recent years.

Nature lovers will find much to enjoy here. Like Fort Desoto, Perdido Beach is home to many species of exotic wildlife, including the endangered beach mouse and sea turtles.

Perdido Key is a paradise for birders, with seagulls, skimmers, terns and pelicans sharing the white quartz sand and clear blue water alongside bathers.

Island eats

For restaurants on the island, Flora-Bama should be at the top of your list. The charming dive bar, which opened more than a half-century ago, is a local favorite. The seafood is as fresh as you'd expect; go spicy with the firecracker shrimp tacos, tossed in sweet chipotle ranch dressing with vinegar slaw and topped with lime sour cream. The Bushwacker cocktail will have you feeling the mellow island vibes.

Hub Stacey's offers an array of huge, inexpensive and delicious sandwiches. Messing with a classic is always risky, but Hub Stacey's take on the Cuban sandwich subs in Gouda cheese and adds banjo ham to great effect.

Where to stay

To have your own secluded slice of this island paradise, make your home base one of the luxe condos run by Perdido Key Resort Management, which operates several properties on the island, from beachside cottages to luxury high-rises. They also all have something you won't find elsewhere on the island: a perks program called Keys to Fun.

Think of it as an island-wide two-for-one promotion for golfing, deep sea fishing, sunset cruises, dolphin watching and even admission to the Waterville USA water park. Basically, if you're going on a fishing tour, one person in your party sails free and only the other has to pay. Or, if you'd like a little alone time on your vacation, each member of your group can experience a different attraction independently for free.

Back on the mainland

If you've got the time, spend a day in downtown Pensacola. The National Naval Aviation Museum, the world's largest, is free to visit, but sign up for a tour guide. More than 150 restored aircraft are on display, including the Que Sera Sera, which is the first aircraft to land at the South Pole.

On the beach, climb the 177 steps to get to the top of the Pensacola Lighthouse, which offers a dramatic view of the Gulf Coast.

Perdido Key has acres of unspoiled Florida wetlands. ISTOCK

Hub Stacey's is your spot for fresh seafood and sandwiches. RENEE S., YELP

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Splash down at these parks

Get wet at the best water-themed attractions in the U.S. this summer.

Fodor's Travel

Six Flags White Water has its share of thrill rides as well as family fun. ALTINSIDER, FLICKR

The Zinga at Splashin' Safari PATRICK MCGARVEY, FLICKR

Colossal Curl at Water Country USA RICKY BRIGANTE, FLICKR

Water Country USA

At the Mid-Atlantic's largest water park with more than 40 water slides, Water Country USA in Williamsburg, Virginia, is a must. Still garnering praise as it enters its fourth season, the park's Colossal Curl was the first slide of its kind in the country when it was built in 2014. The slide packs two heart-racing elements on its 552-foot track, starting with a 24-foot Tornado whirlpool before picking up speed into the TornadoWave — where the slide's four-person clover rafts scale the wall, hang weightless, then drop toward a narrow exit.

Holiday World & Splashin' Safari

Santa Claus, Indiana's Holiday World & Splashin' Safari is home to two of the world's longest water coasters, Mammoth and Wildebeest, a feat no other water park in the country can claim. Mammoth stands out for its unique six-person raft that climbs a seven-story hill before racing down a course of seven drops. Wildebeest is a more traditional new-age water coaster, featuring a winding track of underground tunnels and drops that push the four-person dinghy to speeds upward of 36 feet a second. Continue your adrenaline rush on Zinga, the park's eight-story Tornado slide, where a four-person inner tube scales the curved walls of the purple and blue mega-structure.

Six Flags White Water

One of the world's largest racing slides, the Wahoo Racer, a six side-by-side lane slide standing nearly 60 feet tall, can be found at Six Flags White Water in Marietta, Georgia. Riders will have the chance to race head-first on water toboggans that curve along a large loop and some gut-churning hills before a straightaway to the finish line.

Mountain Creek Waterpark

All eyes will be on Vernon, New Jersey's Mountain Creek Waterpark (formerly known as Action Park) this summer as the famed park rekindles its physics-defying past. A legendary spot that once reigned as the world's most dangerous amusement park, it returned in 2014 under new management nearly two decades after shuttering. The revival of the park's most controversial slide, 1985's Cannonball Loop, and Sky Caliber, the world's first freefall and first true vertically looping waterslide, will lure thrillseekers. Erected at 90 feet tall with a 45-foot freefall into a 30-foot loop in darkness, riders are enclosed in a high-tech raft vehicle.

Carolina Harbor Waterpark

Riding high from the success of record-breaking roller coaster Fury 325, Carowinds prepares for another banner year with Carolina Harbor Waterpark in Charlotte, North Carolina. Boomerang Bay offers double the water slides; highlights will include the Pirate's Plank, a nearly vertical freefall with a floor-drop feature, and Seaside Splashworks, a children's water playground.

Typhoon Lagoon

One of two water parks at Disney World — the second being Blizzard Beach — Typhoon Lagoon demands a day of its own. Impeccably themed as the aftermath of a fictional typhoon, the park's centerpiece is Miss Tilly, a shrimp boat impaled on a mountaintop that erupts with a geyser every half hour. Standouts in the park include the one of the world's biggest wave pools and Shark Reef, the rare opportunity to snorkel a manmade reef teeming with live sharks.

Quassy Amusement & Waterpark

A smaller park that wins guests over with its low-key charm and affordable fun, Quassy Amusement & Waterpark reopens in Middlebury, Connecticut, in 2017 with Slide City. Expanding its offerings for the younger set, Slide City introduces five starter slides for those 48 inches and shorter. And for older guests, the park's BulletBowl is a must, featuring a thrilling two-person raft slide that plunges into a huge blue and purple bowl, scaling the walls of the structure like a roulette ball.

'Avatar' comes to life at Disney

Orlando's Animal Kingdom theme park takes visitors inside Pandora.

Fodor's Travel

Walt Disney World has just opened its first new theme park area since the expansion of Fantasyland at the Magic Kingdom in Walt Disney World back in late 2012.

The new section, Pandora: The World of Avatar, is a natural fit into the jungle-themed world of Disney's Animal Kingdom in Orlando. Inspired by the world of James Cameron's 2009 film "Avatar," the attention to detail in Pandora is beyond belief. The floating mountains will make visitors feel as though they are on another planet.

Pandora also opened with two new rides. The first is a traditional dark ride, the slow, family-friendly Na'vi River Journey that takes visitors on a gentle, musical journey through the Valley of Mo'ara. The more spectacular ride is Avatar Flight of Passage, where you glide on the back of a mountain banshee.

There's also a new canteen called Satu'li, and a bar called Pongu Pongu, both serving food and drinks themed to the film.

But it's at night that Pandora: The World of Avatar really comes to life, with light shows including "Rivers of Light" that finally premiered on Earth Day, April 22, 2017, after an almost yearlong delay.

And count on the world of Pandora to grow: Cameron recently announced that he is making four sequels to "Avatar," with the first set to be released in December 2020.

Elsewhere at Disney World, the Magic Kingdom also recently introduced a new fireworks spectacular, "Happily Ever After." Though Disney's Hollywood Studios remains open, it's undergoing a massive expansion to create new lands devoted to "Toy Story" and "Star Wars."

Na'vi River Journey is the new all-ages ride at Pandora: The World of Avatar.
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

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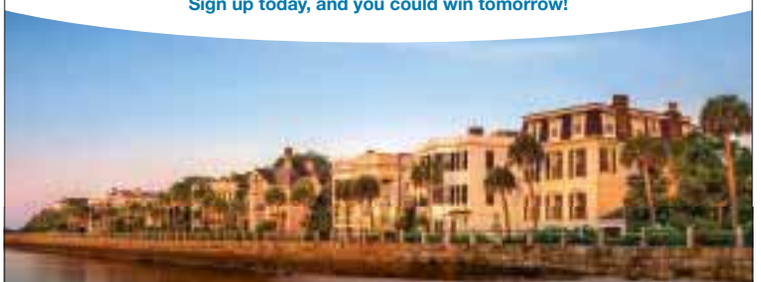

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2017 NBA mock draft: Version 1.0

JOE PANTORNO
@JoePantorno
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

We are exactly three weeks away from the 2017 NBA draft at the Barclays Center, which means it's time to start predicting how the dominoes could fall on June 22.

1 **Boston Celtics**
Markelle Fultz, PG
Washington

2 **Los Angeles Lakers**
Lonzo Ball, PG
UCLA

3 **Philadelphia 76ers**
Josh Jackson, SF
Kansas

4 **Phoenix Suns**
Jayson Tatum, SF
Duke

5 **Sacramento Kings**
De'Aaron Fox, PG
Kentucky

6 **Orlando Magic**
Dennis Smith, PG
North Carolina State

7 **Minnesota Timberwolves**
Jonathan Isaac, SF/PF
Florida State

8 **New York Knicks**
Malik Monk, SG
Kentucky

9 **Dallas Mavericks**
Lauri Markkanen, PF
Arizona

10 **Sacramento Kings**
Justin Jackson, SF
North Carolina

11 **Charlotte Hornets**
Zach Collins, PF/C
Gonzaga

12 **Detroit Pistons**
Donovan Mitchell, SG
Louisville

13 **Denver Nuggets**
OG Anunoby, SF/PF
Indiana

14 **Miami Heat**
Luke Kennard, SG
Duke

15 **Portland Trail Blazers**
Jarrett Allen, C
Texas

16 **Chicago Bulls**
Frank Ntilikina, PG
France

17 **Milwaukee Bucks**
Ike Anigbogu, C
UCLA

18 **Indiana Pacers**
John Collins, PF
Wake Forest

19 **Atlanta Hawks**
Justin Patton, C
Creighton

20 **Portland Trail Blazers**
T.J. Leaf, PF
UCLA

21 **OKC Thunder**
Rodions Kurucs, SF
Barcelona

22 **Brooklyn Nets**
Harry Giles, C
Duke

23 **Toronto Raptors**
Isaiah Hartenstein, PF/C
Zalgiris

24 **Utah Jazz**
Jonathan Jeanne, C
Nancy (France)

25 **Orlando Magic**
D.J. Wilson, PF
Michigan

26 **Portland Trail Blazers**
Tyler Lydon, SF/PF
Syracuse

27 **Brooklyn Nets**
Ivan Rabb, PF/C
California

28 **Los Angeles Lakers**
Bam Adebayo, C
Kentucky

29 **San Antonio Spurs**
Anzejs Pasecniks, C
Gran Canaria

30 **Utah Jazz**
Terrance Ferguson, SG
Adelaide

Aaron Judge's monster numbers at Yankee Stadium make his stats away from home look far more pedestrian. GETTY IMAGES

Judge has a slight weakness: The road

Achilles had his heel, and Aaron Judge, to a much lesser extent, has games played away from Yankee Stadium

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New York Yankees right fielder Aaron Judge has quickly become the darling of the Bronx.

How could he not?

The 6-foot-7 slugger has handled the New York market to perfection while mashing home runs at a feverish rate.

Through his first 47 games, he has hit 17 dingers, which has him on pace to finish the year with 56 long balls. A Yankee hasn't hit that many home runs in a single season since Alex Rodriguez bombed 54 in 2007.

His strikeouts are down compared to a 2016 debut in which he went down in 42 of his 84 at-bats; his average is up around the .320 mark and his on-base percentage is well over .400.

Heck, he's even making sterling diving catches that simply shouldn't happen given a player of his stature.

Everything is coming up Judge, who should rightfully be in the American League MVP talks during these early parts of the 2017 season.

However — as you know it's impossible to have the perfect ballplayer — there is a minuscule negative trend that has developed throughout his big start to the season.

Judge's splits between playing at home and on the road are quite dramatic, as he has shown a clear affinity for batting at Yankee Stadium:

Stats at Yankee Stadium

24 games
81 at-bats
.370 batting average
.495 on-base percentage
.852 slugging percentage
12 home runs
26 RBI
20 walks

Stats away from Yankee Stadium

23 games
86 at-bats
.279 batting average
.347 on-base percentage
.535 slugging percentage
5 home runs
11 RBI
7 walks

The gap between Judge's numbers seems so extreme given the way he is just pounding the ball at home, that it goes without saying.

But it appears as though his play on the road has impacted the Yankees' success. In the Bronx, New York is 17-8, which is the fourth-best home record in the league.

On the road, they are 13-11, which is still an extremely acceptable record while playing in hostile environments.

As nitpicky as it sounds, especially if Judge continues to be thrust in MVP conversations, those numbers on the road — specifically in the power department — will have to experience a little kick.

If not, the argument of playing in a bandbox like Yankee Stadium will constantly be used against him when detractors attempt to downplay his success.

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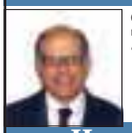

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday June 28, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at 42 Broadway, 5th floor on a petition for 250 E 85th Street Food Corp. to establish, maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe at 250 E 58th St. in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of two years.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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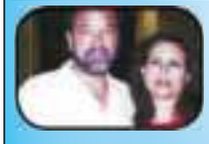

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Across
1 Shows boredom
6 Pony Express load
10 Dinner checks
14 Hunter constellation
15 Livy's year
16 Soccer chants
17 Silt deposit
18 Jazzy refrain
19 Bid adieu
20 Buzzing about
21 Congealing
23 Co. honcho
25 Deli loaf
26 Hoarfrost
29 Hoss' big brother
32 Prickly pear
37 Some
38 1917 abdicator
39 Cattle food
40 Outdoes (3 wds.)
43 Cleans the slate
44 Full-grown acorns
45 Chair support
46 Fix, as a skirt
47 -- meridiem
48 Ming thing
49 Night hooter
51 Between pi and sigma
53 Fetch
58 Overjoy
62 Longish skirt
63 Prefix for while
64 Diminutive
65 Hockey's -- Mikita
66 Greek colonnade
67 Not watertight
68 Plucky
69 Kitchen meas.
70 Iraq neighbor

Down
1 Jedi master
2 Warmonger of myth
3 Droop
4 Pay attention
5 Pitfall, maybe
6 Antony the Roman
7 Indigo plant
8 Tell
9 High up
10 Pith helmet
11 Watts or Shepard
12 Broken-off glacier
13 Former JFK arrival
22 Opera heros, often
24 Desert spring
26 Steakhouse demand
27 Get tough
28 Mimic in a cage
30 Mr. Aykroyd
31 Inert gas
33 Gold, in Spain
34 Abdul or Zahn
35 Keats' saint
36 Rock climber's foothold
38 Aftershock
39 Quack
41 NNW opposite
42 Gathered dust
47 Sirens, often
48 Barrage
50 Farrow film "sister"
52 Spikes and wedgies
53 Ms. Moreno
54 Red-waxed cheese
55 Antler prong
56 Cognac rating
57 JFK guesses
59 Miles away
60 Polynesian carving
61 Gaelic singer
62 Dim sum additive

metro.us/sudoku

easy

				2	4		1	
	6		1					
8	9			6		3		
3	4			5		8		9
5				4				7
2		6		7			5	4
		4		3			2	1
					6		7	
	7		5	1				

hard

4	1			6	3		8	2
				7				
3				8				1
					8	6		4
	6	1		2		8	3	
8		3	9					
2				9				5
				4				
6	5		1	3			7	8

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Finish what you start. The more you get done, the better you will feel. You'll make an impression on someone who can make a difference to your future.

Taurus You'll look at people and organizations in your community differently. Consider what you can do to help improve your life and make the world a better place.

Gemini Walk away from anyone who is a bad influence. Excessive behavior, deception and problems with youngsters, friends or loved ones can ruin your day.

Cancer Find a unique but practical way to do your job or present something you want to pursue. Your attention to detail and quality will gain respect and support.

Leo An unusual perspective on an offer you receive will be based on ulterior motives. Don't let someone do your thinking for you. Act on your own behalf and benefit.

Virgo Attending a networking event or getting together with peers you respect will help you gauge how best to move forward. An unusual partnership will motivate you.

Libra Look over your papers and make sure you have everything in order pertaining to your home and contractual matters. A minute alteration can save you a bundle.

Scorpio Collaborate with someone who brings out the best in you. An emotional talk will help solve any uncertainty you have concerning equitable terms.

Sagittarius Ask questions if you are confused or uncertain about what's expected of you. Delays or poor directions will result in frustration while traveling.

Capricorn If something appears to be unrealistic or too good to be true, you need to back away. Put your time, effort and cash into something beneficial and tangible.

Aquarius Make sure you see things clearly when dealing with relationships or emotional matters. Your vision may be marred by someone else's inaccurate version of affairs.

Pisces It will be difficult to differentiate between truth and fiction. Try not to mislead someone who can alter your position or reputation. Stick to the facts. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

A	T	O	M		O	V	I	D		G	R	I	S	T
L	O	R	I		R	O	L	E		L	U	G	E	R
P	O	E	M		W	I	L	E		A	D	O	R	E
S	T	O	O	P	E	D		T	U	N	D	R	A	S
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K	E	Y	E	D		D	O	S	S		N	E	S	T

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